



A NEW MARK MERLIN MYSTERY!

12¢



JUNE
NO. 66

HOUSE of SECRETS

ECLIPSO
HERO-VILLAIN
IN ONE MAN

in **"The TWO FACES
of DOOM!"**

BRUCE HAS TRANSFORMED
INTO **ECLIPSO** AGAIN AND HE'S
ACQUIRED A FANTASTIC
NEW POWER!



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2 COMPLETE
ROMAN
ARMIES

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and 16 pieces of ammunition (harmless)*

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Here's my \$1.98. Rush 132 piece ROMAN SOLDIER set to me, if not satisfied I may return merchandise for full refund.

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MARK MERLIN

SLEUTH OF THE SUPERNATURAL

BAROOOM!

THE VIBRATIONS FROM THE MAGIC BOX HAVE ALREADY SPLIT THE MOUNTAIN! I-I'VE G-GOT TO R-R-REACH IT BEFORE THE EARTH ITSELF IS DESTROYED!

AS SOME SAGE FIRST SAID, A LITTLE KNOWLEDGE IS A DANGEROUS THING! WHEN HUBERT HARTLEY, AMATEUR MAGICIAN, GOT HIS HANDS ON THE AMAZING DEVICES OF AN ANCIENT WIZARD, HE THOUGHT THEY WOULD BRING HIM FAME AND HAPPINESS! BUT THE MAGIC TURNED TO MENACE IN THE HANDS OF...

The Man who played Sorcerer!

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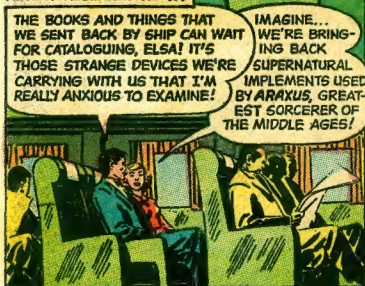
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HOUSE OF SECRETS



ON A MIGHTY JET RETURNING FROM EUROPE, MARK MERLIN AND HIS SECRETARY SIT REVIEWING THEIR RECENT RESEARCH TRIP...



THE BOOKS AND THINGS THAT WE SENT BACK BY SHIP CAN WAIT FOR CATALOGUING, ELSA! IT'S THOSE STRANGE DEVICES WE'RE CARRYING WITH US THAT I'M REALLY ANXIOUS TO EXAMINE!

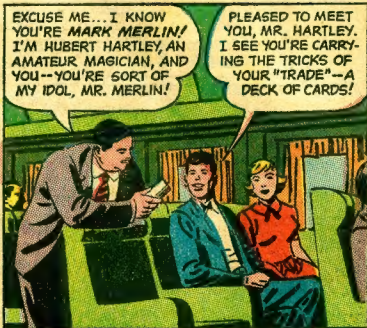
IMAGINE... WE'RE BRINGING BACK SUPERNATURAL IMPLEMENTS USED BY ARAXUS, GREATEST SORCERER OF THE MIDDLE AGES!

WITHOUT FURTHER ENCOURAGEMENT, HARTLEY ATTEMPTS AN EXHIBITION OF HIS TALENT...



NOW I JUST TAP THE DECK LIGHTLY AND--OOPS! THAT WASN'T SUPPOSED TO HAPPEN! FUNNY, I THOUGHT I HAD THIS TRICK DOWN PAT!

WELL, A LITTLE MORE PRACTICE SHOULD DO IT. NICE MEETING YOU, HARTLEY.



EXCUSE ME... I KNOW YOU'RE MARK MERLIN! I'M HUBERT HARTLEY, AN AMATEUR MAGICIAN, AND YOU--YOU'RE SORT OF MY IDOL, MR. MERLIN!

PLEASUED TO MEET YOU, MR. HARTLEY. I SEE YOU'RE CARRYING THE TRICKS OF YOUR "TRADE"--A DECK OF CARDS!

SOON, AT THE AIR TERMINAL, AFTER THEIR PLANE HAS LANDED...



THIS ISN'T MY BAG! IT LOOKS JUST LIKE MINE, BUT THIS HANDLE IS PLASTIC AND MINE WAS LEATHER! SOMEONE'S TAKEN MINE BY MISTAKE! AND INSIDE IT ARE THE DEVICES OF ARAXUS!

MINUTES LATER...



ATTENTION, ALL PASSENGERS JUST ARRIVED ON PAN-ATLANTIC JET FLIGHT-17, ONE OF YOU TOOK ANOTHER PASSENGER'S BAG! IT CONTAINS IMPORTANT RESEARCH MATERIAL! PLEASE RETURN IT AT ONCE!

BUT AT THAT VERY MOMENT, OUTSIDE THE AIR TERMINAL...



MUSTN'T BE LATE FOR MY DATE WITH BETTY! I'M GOING TO PROPOSE TO HER TONIGHT! YES, SIR, THIS COULD BE THE MOST IMPORTANT NIGHT OF MY LIFE!

TAXI!!



HOUSE OF SECRETS



SOON, IN MARK'S GREAT, BROODING MANSION ON MYSTERY HILL...



THAT OLD LETTER YOU FOUND IN THE BAG IDENTIFIED IT! OUR MAN IS--HUBERT HARTLEY, THE AMATEUR MAGICIAN. I'LL GET HIS PHONE NUMBER FROM INFORMATION!

AND AS FATE WOULD HAVE IT...



IT'S NO GOOD, MARK! I'M GETTING A BUSY SIGNAL! I'LL HAVE TO WAIT AND TRY AGAIN!

MEANWHILE, IN HUBERT'S APARTMENT...



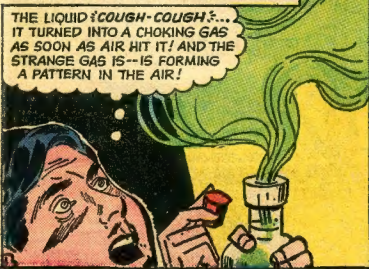
GOOD GRIEF! I GOT MARK MERLIN'S SUITCASE BY MISTAKE! IT'S FULL OF IMPORTANT THINGS FOR HIS WORK! I'LL PHONE HIM AT ONCE AND RELIEVE HIS MIND!

BUT THAT MINUTE IS ABOUT TO BECOME THE MOST IMPORTANT IN HUBERT'S LIFE...



HMM...THIS GREEN LIQUID LOOKS FASCINATING! IT WON'T HURT IF I JUST OPEN THE FLASK FOR A WHIFF!

THE MOMENT THE FLASK IS OPEN, THE ACRID GAS HITS HUBERT'S NOSTRILS AND...



THE LIQUID COUGH-COUGH... IT TURNED INTO A CHOKING GAS AS SOON AS AIR HIT IT! AND THE STRANGE GAS IS--IS FORMING A PATTERN IN THE AIR!



THE GAS PATTERN--IT'S A PORTRAIT OF ME! THIS GAS SHAPES A PICTURE OF WHOEVER HOLDS IT! WHAT A FANTASTIC TRICK MERLIN HAS HERE! OH--MUST CALL HIM AGAIN...



HOUSE OF SECRETS



THEN, SUDDENLY AND WITHOUT EXPLANATION...



MINUTES LATER...



AND, A SECOND AFTER THE DOOR SLAMS SHUT...



LATER, IN HUBERT'S APARTMENT...



SHORTLY...





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MEANWHILE AND QUITE NEARBY, THE LURE OF THE STREET CARNIVAL HAS PULLED AN AMATEUR SHOW-MAN THERE...



THEN-- ABRA-CADABRA!
THE RED BALL DISAPPEARS!
SEE, IT'S NOT IN MY HANDS!

NO-- HA HA!
IT'S HANGING
FROM A THREAD
ON YOUR ARM! IT
WAS SUPPOSED TO
ROLL UP YOUR SLEEVE,
BUT YOU GOOFED!

ANGERED BY THEIR LAUGHTER, HUBERT PULLS A WEIRD DEVICE FROM HIS POCKET...



THINK I'M JUST A BUM, EH? THEN
WATCH THIS! I POINT IT AT THAT
CONDEMNED BRIDGE! NOW
I CONCENTRATE HARD AND--

SPARKS ARE BEGIN-
NING TO POP FROM
THAT CARVED HAND!

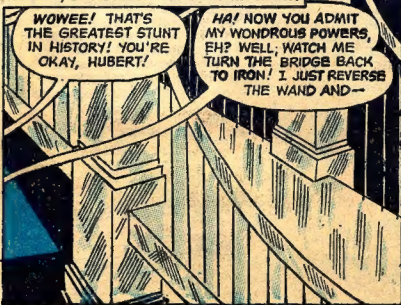
SECONDS
LATER...

MARK-- THAT
BRIDGE! IT--
IT TURNED TO
GLASS! THAT'S
IMPOSSIBLE!

NOT IF YOU POSSESS THE
IVORY WAND OF ARAXUS!
IT WAS SAID TO CHANGE
IRON INTO GLASS AND
BACK AGAIN! ELSA,
HUBERT IS HERE
SOMEPLACE, USING
THOSE DEVICES!



QUICKLY, MARK SEARCHES THE CROWDED STREETS FOR HARTLEY, BUT BEFORE HE CAN FIND HIM...



WOWEE! THAT'S
THE GREATEST STUNT
IN HISTORY! YOU'RE
OKAY, HUBERT!

HA! NOW YOU ADMIT
MY WONDROUS POWERS,
EH? WELL, WATCH ME
TURN THE BRIDGE BACK
TO IRON! I JUST REVERSE
THE WAND AND--

WELL? HOW
ABOUT IT,
HUBERT?...
NOTHING'S
HAPPENING!

CAN'T UNDERSTAND IT!
IT WORKED ON A DRINKING
GLASS JUST AN HOUR AGO!
HMM... MAYBE THIS WAS
TOO BIG A JOB
FOR THE WAND!





HOUSE OF SECRETS



JUST THEN, SUDDEN FEAR CAUSES MARK TO TURN ASIDE FROM HIS SEARCH...

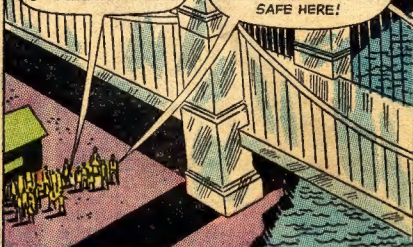
OFFICER, I'M MARK MERLIN! I KNOW HOW THAT BRIDGE WAS TURNED TO GLASS AND I ALSO KNOW IT'S GOING TO ENDANGER EVERYONE ON THIS STREET IN A MINUTE!

HMM... I KNOW YOUR REPUTATION, MERLIN! I'LL CLEAR THE CROWD AWAY AT ONCE!



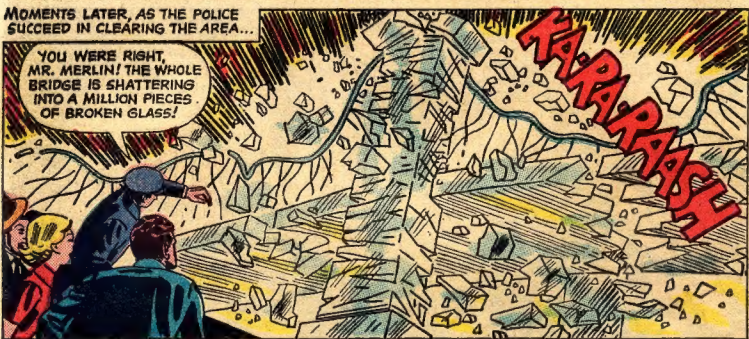
OKAY, FOLKS, LET'S MOVE BACK! WE'VE GOT REASON TO THINK THIS MAY BE DANGEROUS! EVERYBODY BACK!

THIS IS RIDICULOUS, OFFICER! THAT BRIDGE WAS CONDEMNED MONTHS AGO! THERE'S NO ONE ON IT AND WE'RE PERFECTLY SAFE HERE!



MOMENTS LATER, AS THE POLICE SUCCEEDED IN CLEARING THE AREA...

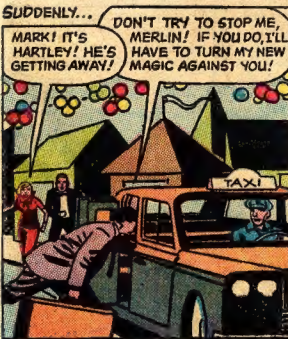
YOU WERE RIGHT, MR. MERLIN! THE WHOLE BRIDGE IS SHATTERING INTO A MILLION PIECES OF BROKEN GLASS!



SUDDENLY...

DON'T TRY TO STOP ME, MERLIN! IF YOU DO, I'LL HAVE TO TURN MY NEW MAGIC AGAINST YOU!

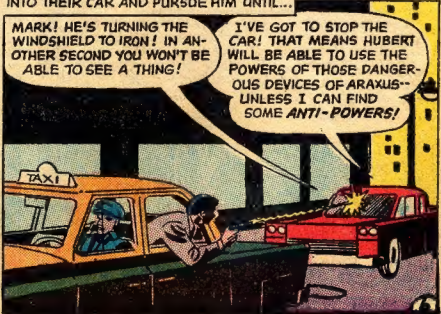
MARK! IT'S HARTLEY! HE'S GETTING AWAY!



DISREGARDING HUBERT'S WARNING, MARK AND ELSA JUMP INTO THEIR CAR AND PURSUE HIM UNTIL...

MARK! HE'S TURNING THE WINDSHIELD TO IRON! IN ANOTHER SECOND YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO SEE A THING!

I'VE GOT TO STOP THE CAR! THAT MEANS HUBERT WILL BE ABLE TO USE THE POWERS OF THOSE DANGEROUS DEVICES OF ARAXIS-- UNLESS I CAN FIND SOME ANTI-POWERS!





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IN HIS UNDERGROUND RESEARCH CENTER, MARK WORKS THROUGH THE NIGHT...

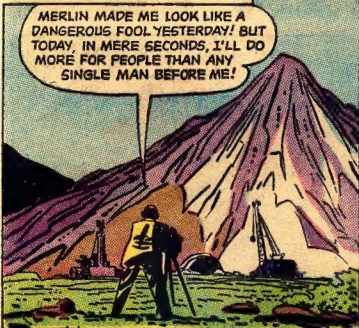
IT'S NO GOOD, ELSA! HARTLEY HAS FOUR DEVICES LEFT. I'VE EXAMINED ALL THE MATERIAL ON ARAXUS, BUT THERE'S ONE DEVICE I CAN'T EVEN IDENTIFY...AND THE FOURTH--THE MOST FEARFUL OF ALL, CAN'T BE COUNTERED!

TAKE A BREAK, MARK! YOU'LL FIND A WAY! I KNOW YOU WILL!



BUT TIME HAS ALREADY RUN OUT...

MERLIN MADE ME LOOK LIKE A DANGEROUS FOOL YESTERDAY! BUT TODAY, IN MERE SECONDS, I'LL DO MORE FOR PEOPLE THAN ANY SINGLE MAN BEFORE ME!



THEN, AS HE TWISTS A KNOB ON A STRANGE LOOKING BOX...

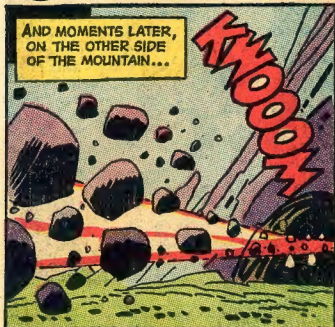
THERE! THE MAGIC VIBRATOR HAS BEGUN WORKING! THE VERY MOLECULES IN THE AIR ARE SHAKING ALL AROUND ME! NOW I INCREASE THE POWER AND--



THE SOUNDS OF VIBRATION INCREASE IN MAGNITUDE AND PITCH UNTIL...

ONE MAN, AND HIS MAGIC POWERS, IS CUTTING A HOLE THROUGH A MOUNTAIN THAT WOULD HAVE TAKEN YEARS TO COMPLETE! LET MERLIN TOP THAT!



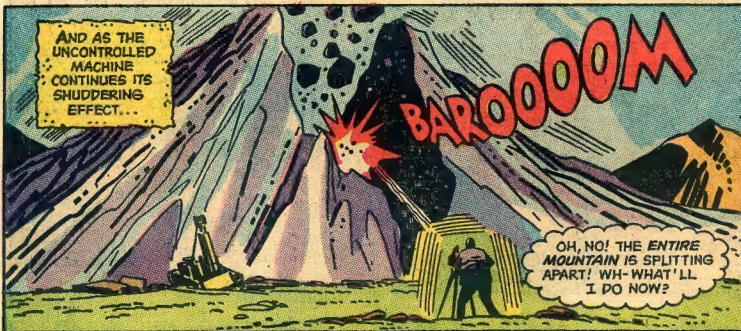
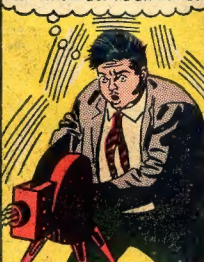


AND MOMENTS LATER,
ON THE OTHER SIDE
OF THE MOUNTAIN...

I DID IT!...DUG THROUGH
TEN MILLION TONS OF
EARTH SINGLE-HANDED!
BETTER TURN OFF THE
MAGIC BOX... IT-- IT'S
GETTING OVERWORKED!



T-T-THE CONTROL IS JAMMED
...V-V-VIBRATIONS ESCAPING
IN ALL D-DIRECTIONS NOW!
MY WHOLE BODY'S SHAKING!



AND AS THE
UNCONTROLLED
MACHINE
CONTINUES ITS
SHUDDERING
EFFECT...

BAROOOOOM

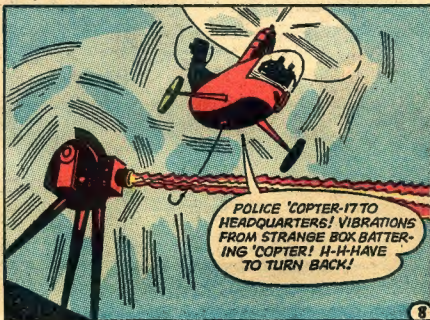
OH, NO! THE ENTIRE
MOUNTAIN IS SPLITTING
APART! WH-WHAT'LL
I DO NOW?

SOON, AS THE AUTHORITIES LEARN OF
THE DISASTER AND ATTEMPT TO REACH
ITS CAUSE...



C-C-CAN'T M-M-MAKE IT!
VIBRATIONS F-F-FORCING
ME BACK! D-D-DIRECT
APPROACH WON'T W-WORK!

AND, AS ANOTHER APPROACH TO THE CRISIS IS ATTEMPTED...



POLICE 'COPTER-17 TO
HEADQUARTERS! VIBRATIONS
FROM STRANGE BOX BATTER-
ING 'COPTER! H-H-HAVE
TO TURN BACK!



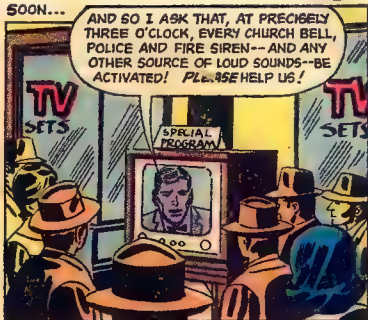
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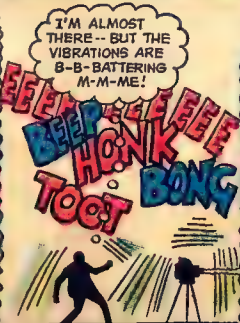
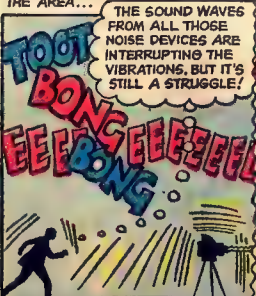
MEANWHILE...



SOON...



AS THE SEA OF SOUND ROLLS OVER THE AREA...



WITH ONE LAST EFFORT, MARK THROWS HIMSELF FORWARD, AND...





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LATER, AS GRATEFUL FACES SURROUND MARK...

YOU WERE WONDERFUL, MR. MERLIN. BUT I STILL THINK THAT HUBERT ISN'T HIMSELF!

NOT HIMSELF! OF COURSE! WHY DIDN'T I SEE IT BEFORE? ELSE, WE'VE GOT TO GET BACK TO MY LAB!

SHORTLY, IN THE INDUSTRIAL END OF THE CITY...

THESE SPHERES IMPART CHARGES OF ATTRACTION TO WHATEVER THEY'RE AIMED AT! SO I CAN MAKE ANY TWO OBJECTS MOVE TOWARD EACH OTHER!

B+J POTASSIUM NITRATE

I WANT A GIANT DEMONSTRATION OF MY POWERS--AND THOSE WAREHOUSES WILL DO NICELY!

RUMBLE
NATIONAL SULPHUR CO.

B+J POTASSIUM NITRATE

RUMBLE

H-H-HEY, JOE--YOU SEE WHAT I SEE?

NATIONAL SULPHUR CO.

COME ON, LET'S CALL THE COPS!

RUMBLE
BOOM
BOOM

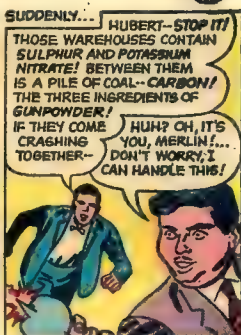
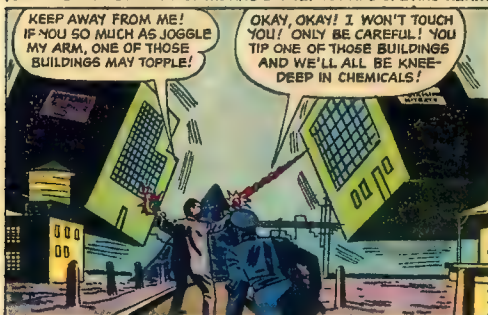
B+J POTASSIUM NITRATE



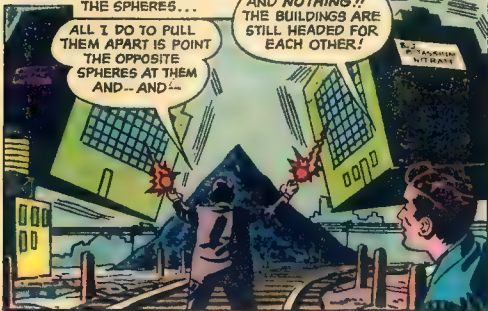
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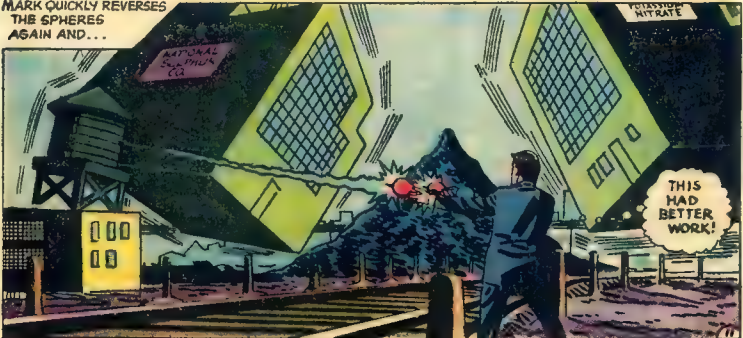
AS THE BUILDINGS CONTINUE MOVING SLOWLY TOWARD ONE ANOTHER...



CONFIDENTLY, HUBERT REVERSES THE SPHERES...



MARK QUICKLY REVERSES THE SPHERES AGAIN AND...

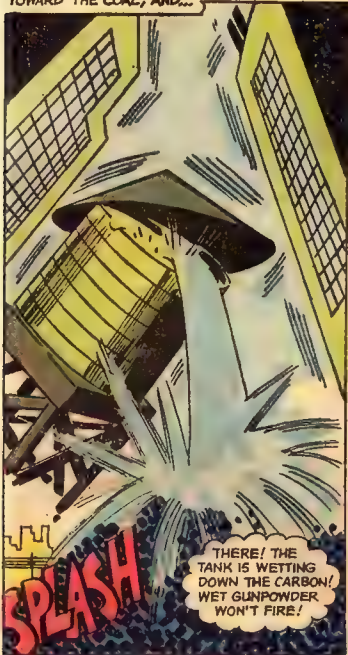




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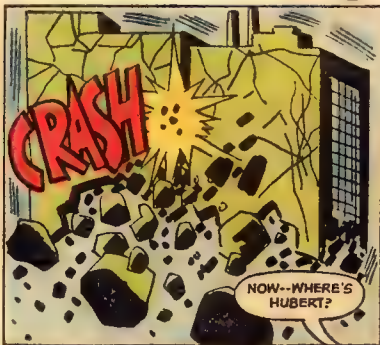


SLOWLY, CAREFULLY, MARK BRINGS THE TANK TOWARD THE COAL, AND...



SPLASH

THERE! THE TANK IS WETTING DOWN THE CARBON! WET GUNPOWDER WON'T FIRE!



CRASH

NOW--WHERE'S HUBERT?

HERE I AM! YOU SUCCEEDED IN MAKING ME LOOK LIKE A POOL AGAIN, MERLIN! BUT I'VE GOT THIS LAST TRICK IN MY BAG I HAVEN'T TRIED YET!

LAST? MARK, HE SHOULD HAVE TWO-- THE ONE YOU COULDN'T IDENTIFY AND THE ONE YOU SAID COULDN'T BE COUNTERED!



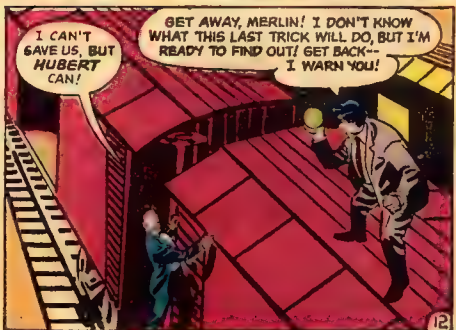
THAT'S WHAT I THOUGHT, UNTIL BETTY GAVE ME A CLUE! NO, THERE'S ONLY ONE DEVICE LEFT-- AND IT'S THE MOST DESTRUCTIVE ONE EVER KNOWN!

C-C-COME BACK, MARK! THERE'S NO WAY TO STOP IT! YOU SAID SO YOURSELF!



I CAN'T GIVE US, BUT HUBERT CAN!

GET AWAY, MERLIN! I DON'T KNOW WHAT THIS LAST TRICK WILL DO, BUT I'M READY TO FIND OUT! GET BACK-- I WARN YOU!



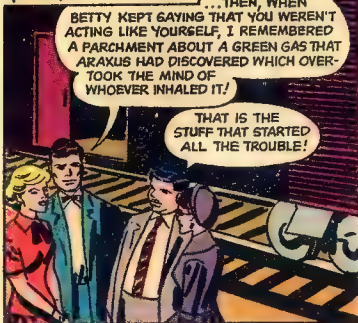
SUDDENLY, AS MARK'S HAND DIPS INTO HIS POCKET AND COMES FLYING OUT...



BUT, IN A FLASH, A FANTASTIC CHANGE OCCURS...



QUICKLY, MARK EXPLAINS...



I COULDN'T IDENTIFY IT BECAUSE THAT FLASK CONTAINED A LIQUID-- NOT A GAS. I FINALLY REALIZED THAT THE LIQUID TURNED TO GAS ON AIR CONTACT! THE RED ANTIDOTE FORMULA WAS AMONG ARAXUS' PAPERS!

WELL, I'M THROUGH WITH MAGIC, MR. MERLIN. EXCEPT FOR ONE LAST TRICK-- I'M GOING TO TURN INTO A HUSBAND! HA! HA! HA!



For The VERY BEST

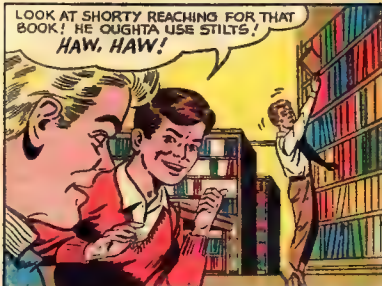


in COMICS READING



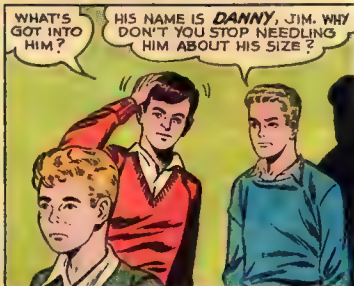
NAMES *DO* HURT!

LOOK AT SHORTY REACHING FOR THAT BOOK! HE OUGHTA USE STILTS!
HAW, HAW!



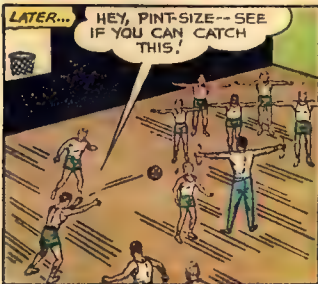
WHAT'S GOT INTO HIM?

HIS NAME IS **DANNY**, JIM. WHY DON'T YOU STOP NEEDLING HIM ABOUT HIS SIZE?



LATER...

HEY, PINT-SIZE-- SEE IF YOU CAN CATCH THIS!



OOF!



YOU OUGHT TO BE MORE CAREFUL, JIM! WATCH WHERE YOU THROW THAT BALL NEXT TIME!



ER--IT WASN'T ENTIRELY HIS FAULT, MR. BROWN. I--ER--STEPPED ASIDE WHEN HE THREW THE BALL... I'M SORRY.



YOU KNOW, JIM, DANNY'S A **BIGGER** MAN THAN YOU ARE!



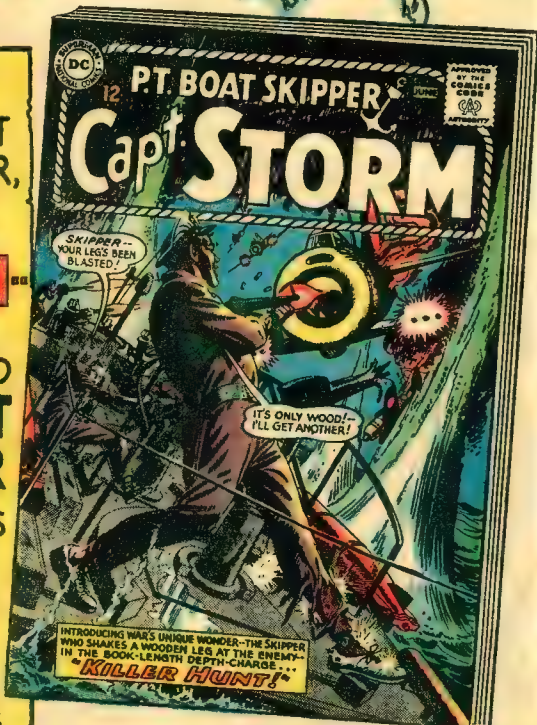
Ride a Sea-Going **THUNDERBOLT...**

with
DC'S NEWEST
BATTLE STAR,
Capt. STORM

THE
ONE-LEGGED
**P.T. BOAT
SKIPPER**

WHO STANDS
ON A
FLOATING
KEG OF
TNT

EVERY TIME
HE BATTLES
THE ENEMY!



WATCH FOR HIM-- HE'LL BE
AT **YOUR** NEWSSTAND
MARCH 12th!



WORLD of the WEIRD

HALLOWE'EN stems directly from a Druidic festival dating back to ancient Scotland and Ireland, and known as All Hallows Eve. Celebrated annually on the night of October 31st, it was believed that on this night, witches and demons gathered to make their mischief. The wearing of Halloween masks today is an outgrowth of the supposed custom of witches to assume grotesque forms.

* * *

In the Middle Ages a sick person often changed his name. The purpose of this was to divert and confuse the evil spirit supposedly responsible for the illness.

* * *

The early Chinese practiced a form of foretelling the future by enclosing messages in balls of dough, which were then baked. This was called "Aleuromancy"—divination from flour. The custom has come down to modern times, in the form of fortune cookies.

* * *

The entire world of 1179 was shaken by the discovery of a secret letter of an astrologer who signed himself John of Toledo. In the letter, the astrologer predicted that in 1186, when all the planets would unite under the sign of the Scales, a terrible catastrophe would occur. Inevitably, a violent storm would be followed by an earthquake. The letter of John of Toledo created a tremendous impression over all of Europe and Asia. In Germania, people began to build shelters. The Byzantine emperor in Constantinople had the windows of his palace boarded up. In England, the Archbishop of Canterbury proclaimed a fast of atonement. Seven years later, the fatal year came and went without the slightest sign of the predicted catastrophes.

However, this didn't faze the followers of John of Toledo one bit. They now claimed that everyone had taken the predictions too literally. What John of Toledo actually

referred to, they averred, was the attack on Jerusalem by the Mohammedan leader, Saladin. Was this not a "terrible catastrophe." And did it not cause the "earth to quake?"

* * *

The cat has always been associated with magic. In ancient India the cat was considered sacred. In ancient Britain the cat (believed to have been brought over by the Romans) was said to have magical powers. The Egyptians raised the cat to supreme divinity, and it was called the "Sayer of Great Words." Every year, almost a million pilgrims journeyed to the seat of cat worship in India, Bubastis, where an annual cat festival was held during May.

When the Egyptian cat cult died out, it spread to Europe, where cat clans sprang up in Celtic and Teutonic regions. The cult continued right into the Middle Ages, when black cats were associated with nocturnal magic. Literally thousand of superstitious people belonged to these mysterious cat clans.

The last remaining Cat Clan still exists, in the Scottish Highlands, where the Clan Chattan holds sway. The members of the Clan Chattan are known as the People of the Cat.

* * *

An entire city, Toledo, Spain, was once known for its deep interest in witchcraft. In fact, at the Toledo University, a professorship of Black Magic was established, the entire course extending over a period of seven years.

* *

Men claiming to possess the powers of sorcery have appeared throughout all of history. But the practice hit an all-time high in the 16th century, during the reign of Charles IX of France. In this period, there were over 100,000 "sorcerers" throughout the kingdom, and in Paris alone, about 30,000.



HOUSE OF SECRETS



IN THE PAST, ECLIPSO,
DR. BRUCE GORDON'S
EVIL ALTER-EGO, HAS TURNED
THE POWERS OF HIS BLACK
DIAMOND AND CUNNING
GENIUS LOOSE UPON THE
WORLD -- BUT NOW, IN A
STARTLING DEVELOPMENT,
THE MASTER OF DARKNESS
GAINS A NEW AND MORE
DEADLY POWER AND SHOWS
AN EVEN MORE TERRIFYING SIDE IN...

ECLIPSO

THE TWO FACES OF DOOM!

IT'S ECLIPSO! HE'S BECOME UNBEATABLE WITH HIS NEW POWER !!

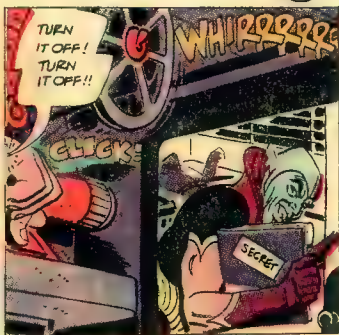
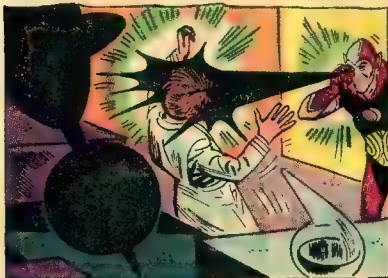




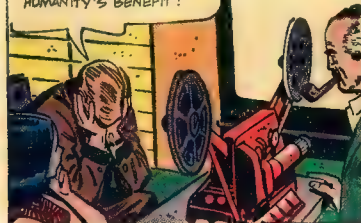
HOUSE OF SECRETS



IN THE VAST LAB COMPLEX BENEATH SOLAR CITY'S RUINS, A SINISTER FIGURE ONCE MORE FLASHES INTO LIFE -- ECLIPSO -- MASTER OF 'BLACK SCIENCE'...



I CAN'T LOOK AT HIM ANYMORE! TO THINK THAT I'M CURSED TO CHANGE INTO THAT VILLAIN WHO IS THE VERY OPPOSITE OF WHAT I'VE TRIED SO HARD TO BE... A SCIENTIST DEDICATED TO HUMANITY'S BENEFIT!



BRUCE! BRUCE, DARLING! YOU MUSTN'T GET SO UPSET!

I'M SORRY, BRUCE! THE FILMS WERE MADE WHEN A BURGLAR ALARM. ECLIPSO SET OFF ACTIVATED CONCEALED CAMERAS! I THOUGHT WE MIGHT SPOT SOMETHING THAT WOULD HELP US GET RID OF HIM!

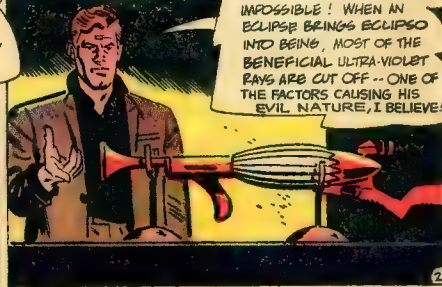


I KNOW, PROFESSOR BENNET -- BUT I'M CONVINCED NOW I'LL NEVER BE FREE OF ECLIPSO! MY ONLY CHANCE IS TO CHANGE HIM FROM AN EVIL FORCE INTO A POWER FOR GOOD!!

GOOD? ECLIPSO?! BUT...!



SOUNDS IMPOSSIBLE, BUT THIS ULTRA-VIOLET RAY GUN I'M WORKING ON MAY DO THE IMPOSSIBLE! WHEN AN ECLIPSE BRINGS ECLIPSO INTO BEING, MOST OF THE BENEFICIAL ULTRA-VIOLET RAYS ARE CUT OFF -- ONE OF THE FACTORS CAUSING HIS EVIL NATURE, I BELIEVE!



NOW IF MY BODY WERE TO BE HIT WITH A LARGE DOSE OF ULTRA-VIOLET WHEN ECLIPSO'S TAKING OVER -- IT MIGHT TURN HIM FROM EVIL TO GOOD!

HMM -- POSSIBLE -- BUT THERE'S ONLY ONE WAY TO TEST IT -- ONE DANGEROUS WAY!

YES, PROFESSOR, WHEN THE MOON CROSSES THE SUN'S PATH AND I TAKE ON MY OTHER, EVIL, IDENTITY -- IN TWO DAYS!

SO BRUCE WORKS TO PERFECT HIS NEW HOPE -- UNWARE THAT THE HEAVENS ARE NOW RE-WRITING HIS FATE..

A METEOR!!
A BIG ONE!!

WITH TERRIFIC IMPACT, THE METEOR PLUMS INTO THE EARTH -- AND WITHIN MOMENTS...

GREAT JEHOSEPHAT! SOMETHIN' CRAWLIN' OUT!! SOMETHIN' TERRIBLE!!!

WRITHING, PULSATING -- THE STRANGE THING FROM THE HOLE CROSSES THE FIELD AND...

MY BARN -- LIFTING UP INTO THE AIR -- TEARING APART! GOT TO PHONE FOR HELP!!

KKKKRRRACH!!!
KKRRRUNNNNN!!!



HOUSE OF SECRETS



AND SHORTLY, IN THE UNDERGROUND LAB COMPLEX--

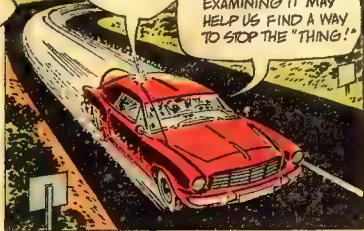
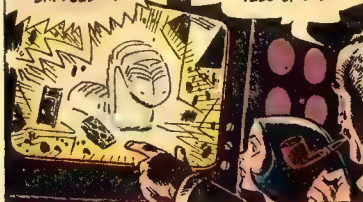
THE ENTIRE CITY
MAY HAVE TO BE
EVACUATED AS THIS
WEIRD THREAT NEARS
IT! AUTHORITIES ARE
BAFFLED--!

LOOK, MONA! IT'S CAUSING
ALL SOLID OBJECTS NEARBY
TO RISE AND BREAK APART--
YET WITHOUT TOUCHING
THEM!! WE'VE GOT TO
TELL BRUCE!

WITHIN
MINUTES...

DO YOU
REALLY
THINK WE
CAN HELP,
BRUCE?

MY GUESS IS THAT
MOVING MENACE IS
POWERED BY SOME
ENERGY SOURCE IN
THE METEOR!
EXAMINING IT MAY
HELP US FIND A WAY
TO STOP THE "THING!"



SOON...

THE ENERGY METER'S GOING CRAZY--
THAT METEOR'S GIVING OFF SOME STRANGE
POWER WAVES! OFFICER, KEEP THOSE ON-
LOOKERS BACK AT A SAFE DISTANCE!

RIGHT, DR.
GORDON!



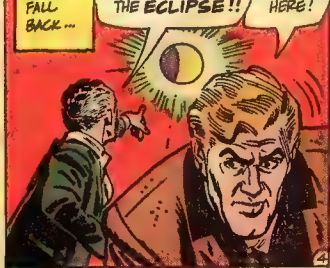
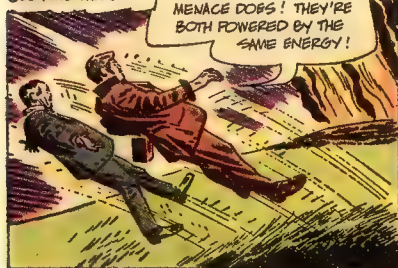
BUT AS BRUCE AND
PROF. BENNET TRY
TO CLOSE IN ON THE
GLOWING HOLE...

WATCH IT, PROFESSOR! THAT
"HOT ROCK'S" TOSSING US BACK...
JUST AS THE ANOEBA-LIKE
MENACE DOES! THEY'RE
BOTH POWERED BY THE
SAME ENERGY!

BUT JUST
AS THEY
FALL
BACK...

GREAT STARS!!
BRUCE-- WE
FORGOT ABOUT
THE ECLIPSE!!

I-I'VE
GOT TO GET
AWAY FROM
HERE!





HOUSE OF SECRETS



LIKE A HAUNTED, CURSED SPIRIT, THE YOUNG SCIENTIST DASHES TOWARD THE ROAD...

NO !!
BRUCE--
STOP !!

SECONDS LATER...



I'M TOO LATE ! BRUCE IS CHANGING INTO ECLIPSO AND GETTING AWAY !! AND MONA IS IN THE CAR !

IN THE DARKNESS OF THE ECLIPSE BRUCE'S FANTASTIC METAMORPHOSIS IS UNSEEN BY THE CROWDS... BUT...

WHERE--WHERE
ARE YOU GOING ?

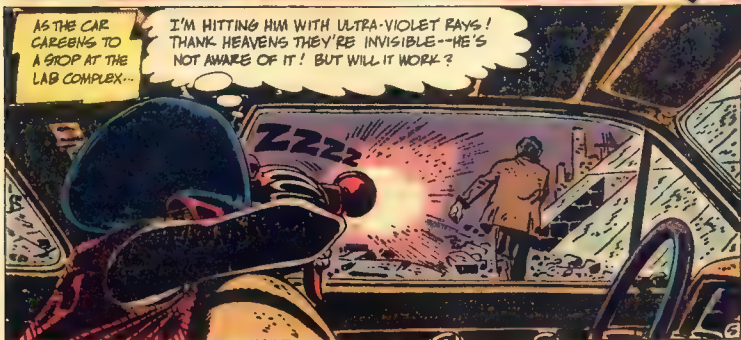
WHERE, MY DEAR ?
TO BRUCE GORDON'S
LAB ! WHERE I'VE
SOMETHING TO
GET !! HAHAHA !!

THE ULTRA-VIOLET RAY GUN
BRUCE WAS DEVELOPING... IT
WAS PUT IN THE CAR WHEN
WE LEFT ! IT'S A
DANGEROUS GAMBLE,
BUT I MUST RISK IT !



AS THE CAR
CAREENS TO
A STOP AT THE
LAB COMPLEX...

I'M HITTING HIM WITH ULTRA-VIOLET RAYS !
THANK HEAVENS THEY'RE INVISIBLE--HE'S
NOT AWARE OF IT ! BUT WILL IT WORK ?

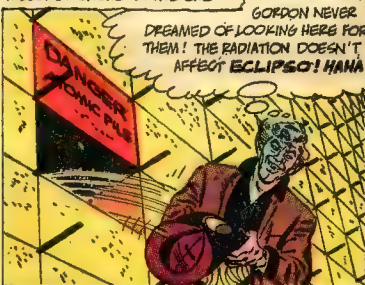




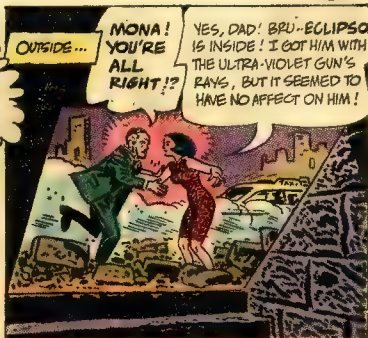
HOUSE OF SECRETS



THE TRANSFORMED MAN QUICKLY RETRIEVES HIS ECLIPSO COSTUME AND BLACK DIAMOND FROM A SECRET CACHE IN THE LAB ...



GORDON NEVER DREAMED OF LOOKING HERE FOR THEM! THE RADIATION DOESN'T AFFECT ECLIPSO! HAHHA!



OUTSIDE ...

MONA! YOU'RE ALL RIGHT!?

YES, DAD! BRU-ECLIPSO IS INSIDE! I GOT HIM WITH THE ULTRA-VIOLET GUN'S RAYS, BUT IT SEEMED TO HAVE NO AFFECT ON HIM!



CAUTIOUSLY, PROF. BENNET AND MONA, HIS DAUGHTER, DESCEND INTO THE UNDERGROUND RESEARCH HQ WHERE ...

IT'S ECLIPSO... UNCONSCIOUS!!

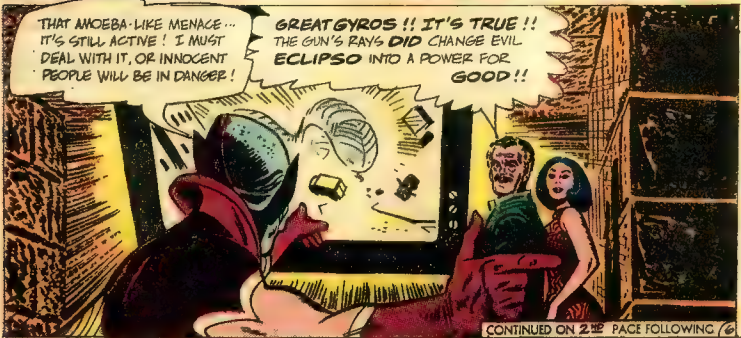
THE RAY GUN... MAYBE IT HAS TAKEN AFFECT! HE'S STIRRING...



THEN...


PROFESSOR-MONA-- MY DEAR FRIENDS! WHAT'S HAPPENED TO ME?

DAD! LISTEN TO HIM!! COULD IT BE ...HE'S CHANGED?



THAT AMOEBE-LIKE MENACE... IT'S STILL ACTIVE! I MUST DEAL WITH IT, OR INNOCENT PEOPLE WILL BE IN DANGER!

GREATGYROS!! IT'S TRUE!! THE GUN'S RAYS DID CHANGE EVIL ECLIPSO INTO A POWER FOR GOOD!!



BE MY GUEST
AT AMERICA'S
GREATEST
AMUSEMENT PARK



PALISADES

AMUSEMENT PARK N. J.

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past while the
supply lasts.



HOUSE OF SECRETS



SOON, IN THE EVACUATED AREA OF THE CITY...

THERE'S THE ENERGY CREATURE!
ARE YOU REALLY GOING TO HELP
DESTROY IT, ECLIPSO?

WATCH ME, PROFESSOR!
LUCKILY, IT'S PROGRESS
IS SLOW, AND NOT
MUCH DEVASTATION HAS
OCCURRED! YOU TWO
STAY BACK, WHERE
IT'S SAFE!

THEN...

THERE HE
GOES -- RIGHT UP
TO IT! ITS FORCE
RAYS DON'T SEEM
TO AFFECT HIM!

OH, DAD, I CAN'T
BEAR TO WATCH!
IF ANYTHING
HAPPENS TO
HIM -- IT'S THE
SAME AS IF IT WERE
HAPPENING TO MY
DEAR BRUCE!

AS THE PAST MASTER OF EVIL DEEDS NEARS THE
WRITHING ENERGY MASS...

FIRST, USING MY
BLACK DIAMOND TO MY ECLIPSED
EYE, I'LL SMOTHER IT WITH
BLACK LIGHT!

THE THING'S STOPPED MOVING...
AND IS LOSING ITS GLOW! HE'S
DOING IT, MONA -- ECLIPSO
IS NEUTRALIZING
THAT CREATURE!!

ANOTHER
INSTANT,
AND...

NOW, I'LL HIT IT WITH A LITTLE
ENERGY OF MY OWN, USING MY
DIAMOND HELD TO MY
UN-ECLIPSED EYE!

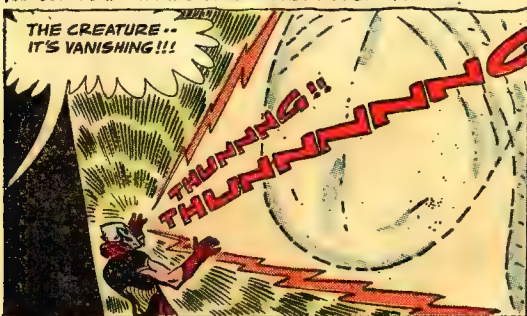
THUNNNNGG!!
THUNNNNGG!!
THUNNNNGG!!



HOUSE OF SECRETS



AND BEFORE MONA'S AND PROF. BENNET'S AWED GAZE ...



THE CREATURE --
IT'S VANISHING!!!

OH, BRUCE -- I
MEAN ECLIPSO --
-- YOU DID IT!!
-- YOU DESTROYED
THAT THREAT!
I COULD
ALMOST
HUG
YOU!!

THIS
PROVES
THAT THE
CHANGE
IN YOU IS
REAL! BUT,
HOW DID YOU
DESTROY THE
CREATURE?



COSMIC RAYS SUSTAINED ITS
ENERGY FORCE ONCE IT LEFT
THE METEOR! BY CUTTING OFF
THOSE RAYS WITH MY BLACK
LIGHT, I REDUCED ITS ENERGY
TO A POINT WHERE MY OWN
ENERGY BOLTS WERE ABLE
TO SHATTER IT TO OBLIVION!

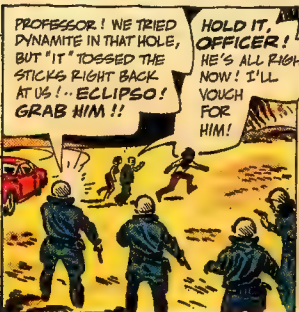
BRILLIANT! BUT THEN,
YOU DO HAVE BRUCE'S
BRAIN! AND NOW THAT YOU'RE
NO LONGER EVIL, YOU WON'T
OBJECT IF I BRING HIM
BACK BY EXPOSING YOU
TO HIGH-INTENSITY
LIGHT...

OF COURSE, PROFESSOR -- BUT AFTER WE
DEAL WITH THAT METEOR! IT MIGHT LET
LOOSE SOME OTHER THREAT.
IF WE DON'T!



SHORTLY, AT THE POLICE-GUARDED FIELD...

REASSURED, THE POLICE LET THE NOTORIOUS ECLIPSO
PASS, AND...



PROFESSOR! WE TRIED
DYNAMITE IN THAT HOLE,
BUT 'IT' TOSSED THE
STICKS RIGHT BACK
AT US!... ECLIPSO!
GRAB HIM!!

HOLD IT,
OFFICER!
HE'S ALL RIGHT
NOW! I'LL
VOUGH
FOR
HIM!



STAY BACK! THIS SHOULD ONLY TAKE
A MOMENT!!

WHAT SOLUTION
HAS HIS BRILLIANT
MIND CREATED?
AMAZING HOW
IMMUNE HE IS TO
THAT REPELLING
ENERGY!



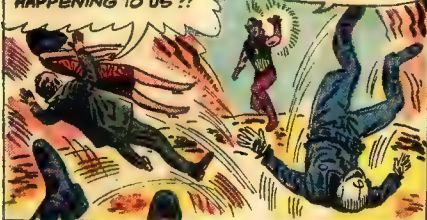
HOUSE OF SECRETS



TENSE MOMENTS PASS... AND THEN...

ECLIPSO... HE'S COME OUT OF THE HOLE WITH HIS FACE GLOWING! UHH! WHAT'S... WHAT'S HAPPENING TO US?!

MY NEW POWER TO LIFT AND REPEL! THE SAME POWER THE CREATURE POSSESSED! HAHAHAH!!



Y-YOU... TRICKED US! YOU'RE STILL THE SAME EVIL ECLIPSO!

YES, I ONLY PRETENDED TO TURN "GOOD" TO GET INTO THE HOLE! I FELT THE FIRST GLOW OF MY NEW POWER WHEN I WAS HERE BEFORE-- AND KNEW THAT GETTING CLOSER WOULD CONFER IT FULLY!



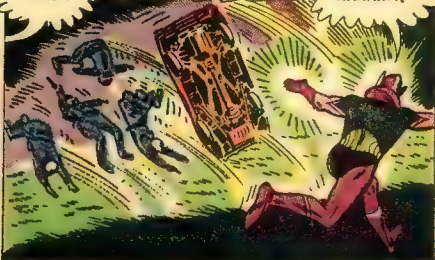
A FUTILE EFFORT, OFFICER, PULLING THAT PISTOL! A WAVE OF MY HAND AND THE NEW POWER IN MY LEFT SIDE DISARMS YOU--THUS!!



THE NEXT MOMENT, THE BIZARRE ECLIPSO FLEES THE FIELD...

STOP HIM!!

NOTHING CAN STOP ME NOW! NOTHING! HAHHA!



TUMBLING MEN AND CARS LIKE TENPINS, THE MASTER OF DARKNESS VANISHES...

OH, DAD! IT'S TOO AWFUL! BUT THE ULTRA-VIOLET GUN'S RAYS--I-I DON'T UNDERSTAND...?

WE FORGOT, MONA, THAT ECLIPSO KNOWS ALL THAT BRUCE DOES! AWARE OF THE RAYGUN'S EXISTENCE, HE GUESSED YOU'D USE IT! THE GUN WAS A FAILURE, AND HE KNEW THAT, TOO! THEN HE FAKED HIS NEW "CHANGED" CHARACTER BUT WHAT WILL HAPPEN NOW?





HOUSE OF SECRETS



THE ANSWER IS
SOON REVEALED.
AT A REMOTE
GOVERNMENT
LABORATORY ...

ECLIPSO!!

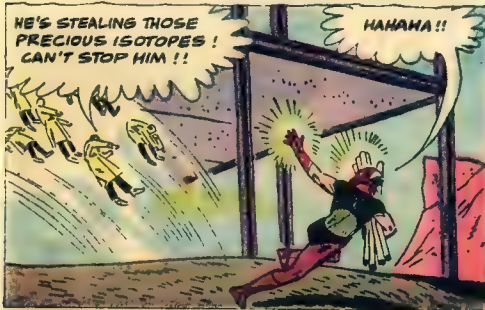
WITH MY NEW POWER, I CAN MAKE THOSE BURGLAR-PROOF
WALLS FLY FROM THEIR FOUNDATIONS--GIVING ME EASY ENTRY!!



THEN, REPELLING GUARDS AND TECHNICIANS LIKE CHARGED ATOMS ...

HE'S STEALING THOSE
PRECIOUS ISOTOPES!
CAN'T STOP HIM!!

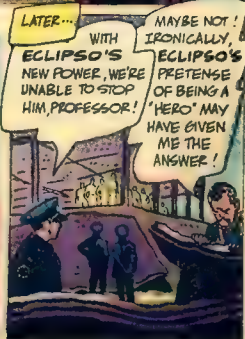
HAHAHA!!



LATER ...

WITH
ECLIPSO'S
NEW POWER, WE'RE
UNABLE TO STOP
HIM, PROFESSOR!

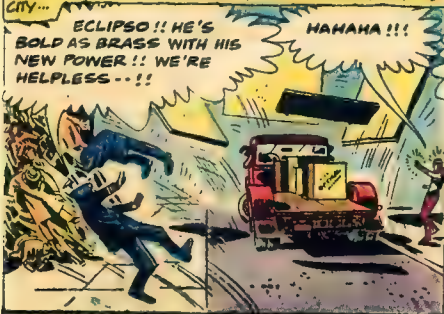
MAYBE NOT!
IRONICALLY,
ECLIPSO'S
PRETENSE
OF BEING A
"HERO" MAY
HAVE GIVEN
ME THE
ANSWER!



AS A SHIPMENT OF COSTLY OPTICAL EQUIPMENT TRUCKS THROUGH THE
CITY ...

**ECLIPSO!! HE'S
BOLD AS BRASS WITH HIS
NEW POWER!! WE'RE
HELPLESS--!!**

HAHAHA!!!

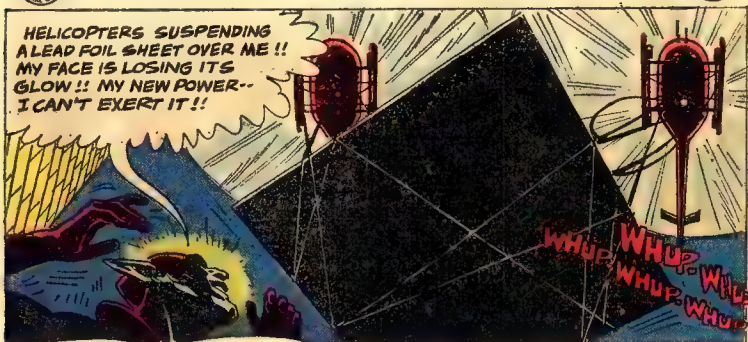


BUT SUDDENLY, BLOCKING OUT THE SUN--

A SHADOW
SWEEPING
OVER ME!!
SOMETHING
ABOVE ...!!

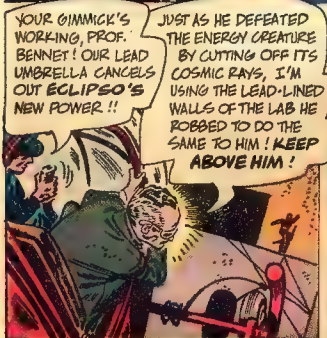
**WHUP-
WHUP-
WHUP!**





HELICOPTERS SUSPENDING
A LEAD FOIL SHEET OVER ME !!
MY FACE IS LOSING ITS
GLOW !! MY NEW POWER--
I CAN'T EXERT IT !!

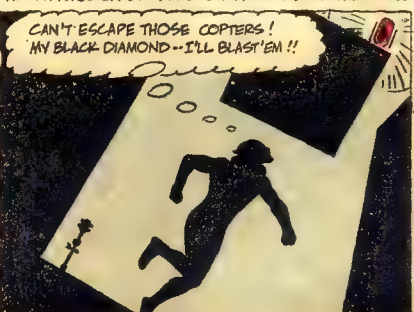
WHUP WHUP
WHUP WHUP
WHUP WHUP



YOUR GIMMICK'S
WORKING, PROF.
BENNET! OUR LEAD
UMBRELLA CANCELS
OUT ECLIPSO'S
NEW POWER !!

JUST AS HE DEFEATED
THE ENERGY CREATURE
BY CUTTING OFF ITS
COSMIC RAYS, I'M
USING THE LEAD-LINED
WALLS OF THE LAB HE
ROBBED TO DO THE
SAME TO HIM! KEEP
ABOVE HIM!

THE STRANGE CHASE GREENS DOWN THE DESERTED AVENUE...



CAN'T ESCAPE THOSE COPTERS!
MY BLACK DIAMOND--I'LL BLAST 'EM !!

BUT AS ECLIPSO READIES THE OMINOUS BEAM... BUT MONA'S STRANGE GRENADE EXPLODES NEAR ECLIPSO...



TIME TO FOLLOW
DAD'S ORDERS...
BEFORE IT'S TOO
LATE !!



A LIGHT BOMB !!! AIIIIIIIIIIIIII !!!

WHAAAAAAAAAAAA PFF FF

AND ABOVE...

THAT FLASH
BELOW...TEMPORARILY
BLINDED ME !!

JUST AS I INTENDED! NOW NO
ONE BUT MONA AND ME, WITH OUR
SPECIAL GLASSES, CAN SEE
ECLIPSO MAKING HIS
GETAWAY AS HE CHANGES BACK
TO BRUCE! GOOD WORK, GIRL!

SHORTLY, AT THE UNDERGROUND LAB...

TRICKED--BEATEN--AGAIN! MUST HIDE
MY COSTUME AND GEM--BEFORE BRUCE
GORDON--TAKES OVER! BUT I'LL HAVE
MY REVENGE--AND SOON!

LATER, AFTER THE STOLEN ISOTOPES HAVE BEEN FOUND...

WELL, THE WORLD STILL THINKS
ECLIPSO IS ONE MAN --
LUCKILY FOR ME! BUT HE
ALMOST WON THIS TIME!

YES, AND HE MIGHT
HAVE THAT NEW POWER
WHEN HE RETURNS!

IT WAS WONDERFUL
BELIEVING ECLIPSO
HAD BECOME GOOD...
EVEN IF IT WAS JUST A
HOAX! WILL IT EVER
REALLY HAPPEN,
BRUCE DARLING?

I WON'T GIVE UP TRYING
TO CHANGE HIM, MONA!
BECAUSE WE ALL KNOW
--THAT HE'LL BE
BACK!!



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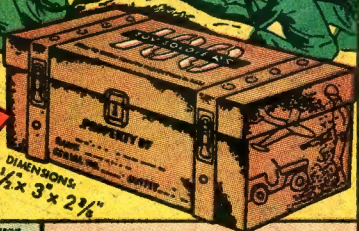
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DIMENSIONS:
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AN IMAGINARY BATTLE SCENE IS SHOWN ABOVE

EACH FOOTLOCKER CONTAINS:

- | | | |
|---------------|------------------|--------------|
| 4 Tanks | 8 Machinegunners | 4 Bombers |
| 4 Jeeps | 8 Sharpshooters | 4 Trucks |
| 4 Battleships | 4 Infantrymen | 8 Jet Planes |
| 4 Cruisers | 8 Officers | 8 Cannon |
| 4 Sailors | 8 Waves | 8 Bazookamen |
| 4 Riflemen | 8 Wacs | 4 Marksmen |

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